

The embodiments of the invention in which an exclusive property or privilege is claimed are defined as follows:

1. A method for interacting with a remote device comprising:

obtaining a request corresponding to controlling one or more identifiable remote devices;

generating a graphical user interface operable to control the remote device, wherein controlling said device includes accessing said remote device and issuing instructions;

obtaining user control instructions from said graphical user interface;

transmitting remote device control data corresponding to said user control instructions; and

obtaining remote device data generated by said remote device.

2. The method of Claim 1, wherein generating a graphical user interface includes dynamically generating a graphical user interface.

3. The method of Claim 2, wherein dynamically generating a graphical user interface includes:

identifying a remote device corresponding to said request;

selecting a program module corresponding to said identified remote device from a plurality of program modules, said program module operable to control said remote device;

generating a screen interface including said selected program module, said program module including a graphical user interface component corresponding to said requested remote device.

4. The method of Claim 3, wherein dynamically generating a graphical user interface includes:

identifying two or more remote devices corresponding to said request;

selecting a program module corresponding to each identified remote device from a plurality of program modules, said program modules operable to control said remote device;

generating a single screen interface containing all program modules, said program modules operable to generate graphical user interface components corresponding to each requested remote device.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein said user control instructions controls the operation of all of said remote devices.

6. The method of Claim 2, wherein said graphical user interface is a Web page.

7. The method of Claim 2, wherein obtaining a request corresponding to controlling one or more identifiable remote devices includes:

obtaining a request for monitoring data corresponding to said remote device.

8. The method of Claim 2, wherein obtaining a request corresponding to controlling one or more identifiable remote devices includes:

obtaining a request to transmit data to said remote device.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein said transmitted data causes said remote device to move.

10. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting control data includes;
transmitting a request for accessing data from said remote device; and
transmitting authorization for access to said remote device.

11. The method of Claim 1, wherein obtaining remote device data generated by said remote device includes:

obtaining real-time data generated by said remote device.

12. The method of Claim 1, wherein obtaining remote device data generated by said remote device includes:

obtaining pre-recorded data generated by said remote device

13. The method of Claim 1, wherein said remote device is a video camera, and wherein obtaining remote device data includes obtaining video data from said video camera.

14. The method of Claim 13, wherein transmitting control data includes transmitting data manipulating said video camera

15. The method of Claim 1, wherein transmitting data includes manipulating operating parameters of said remote device using said graphical user interface; and wherein obtaining remote device data includes obtaining remote device data generated by said remote device based on said manipulated operating parameters.

16. The method of Claim 15, wherein said graphical user interface includes a graphical means for manipulating said operating parameters of said remote device, said graphical means operable to receive user inputs corresponding to said manipulation.

17. The method of Claim 16, wherein said remote device is a video camera, and wherein said graphical means is a graphical controller including graphical representation of a compass having an origin and directional indicators.

18. The method of Claim 17, wherein said graphical controller is operable to communicate the intensity of said manipulation, said intensity based on the distance away said user input is from said origin.

19. The method of Claim 1, wherein obtaining user control data includes obtaining a request for manipulating operating parameters of said remote device; and

wherein transmitting remote device control data includes translating said request into device specific commands, and transmitting said device specific commands to said remote device operable to change said operating parameters of said remote device.

20. The method of Claim 18, wherein said remote device data generated by said remote device based on said changed operating parameters is real-time data.

21. The method of Claim 1, wherein said remote device is selected from the group consisting essentially of intrusion detection devices, card readers, door strikes and contacts, access control panels, bar code scanners, video cameras, still cameras, and microphones.

22. The method of Claim 1, wherein said remote device can be locked, thereby preventing the simultaneous submission of instructions by more than one user.

23. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in any one of Claims 1-22.

24. A computer system having a processor, a memory, and an operating environment, said computer system operable to perform the method recited in any one of Claims 1-22.

25. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components for dynamically interacting between at least one remote device and a computing device, comprising:

a user interface application operable to dynamically generate a graphical user interface corresponding to the remote device;

a device interface application operable to communicate device data from the remote device, and operable to manipulate said data; and

a data transmittal application operable to transmit said data to the computing device, and to facilitate communication between the remote device and the computing device.

26. The computer readable medium of Claim 25, wherein said computing device is a server computer.

27. The computer readable medium of Claim 25, wherein said computing device is a client computer.

28. The computer readable medium of Claim 25, wherein said remote device is selected from the group consisting essentially of intrusion detection devices, card readers, door strikes and contacts, access control panels, bar code scanners, video cameras, still cameras, and microphones.

29. A method for dynamically generating a user interface for controlling at least one remote device comprising:

obtaining a request to control at least one pre-selected remote device;

selecting a program module corresponding to said pre-selected remote device from a plurality of program modules, said program module operable to control said remote device;

transmitting a screen interface with said program module;

wherein said screen interface containing said program module is operable to generate a graphical user interface when loaded within a browser application.

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein said request to control includes two or more pre-selected devices, and wherein said screen interface is an integrated screen interface containing said program modules, said program modules operable to generate a graphical user interface corresponding to said requested remote device when said single screen interface is loaded on a browser application.

31. The method of Claim 29, wherein said screen interface is a Web page.

32. The method of Claim 29, wherein said pre-selected remote device is a video camera having pan-tilt-zoom functionality, and wherein said graphical user interface is operable to control said pan-tilt-zoom functionality of said video camera and to view data from said video camera.

33. The method of Claim 29, wherein said pre-selected remote device is a temperature control device, and wherein said graphical user interface is operable to control said change in temperature of said temperature control device.

34. The method of Claim 29, wherein said pre-selected remote device is a motion detector.

35. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for performing the method recited in any one of Claims 29-34.

36. A computer system having a processor, a memory, and an operating environment, said computer system operable to perform the method recited in any one of Claims 29-34.

37. A system for dynamically generating a user interface for controlling at least one remote device comprising:

at least one remote device operable to receive control commands and to transmit monitoring data based on said control commands;

a server computer in communication with said remote device, said server computer operable to dynamically generate a graphical user interface based on said remote device;

a client computer in communication with said premises server, said client computer operable to display said graphical user interface, and request said control commands.

38. The system of Claim 37, further comprising a proxy server in communication with said client computer and said premises server, said proxy server operable to process and store monitoring data generated by said remote device.

39. The system of Claim 37, wherein said server computer and said client computer are in communication via the Internet.

40. The system of Claim 37, wherein said server computer and said client computer are in communication via a dedicated device control network.